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II. JAMES VERNON TO FRANCIS NICHOLSON.

WHITEHALL 18th June 1699*Sir*

I signified to You his Maj^{ty}s Pleasure in January last concerning the scots who had undertaken an Expedition to the West Indies, the place not being then known in which they designed to settle and his Maj^{ty} being since informed that they have taken possession of the Bay of Caerat¹ [or Carrat] near the Bay of Darien between Cartagena and Porto Bello and are fortifying themselves there, seeming resolved to maintain it by force against the Spaniards: His Maj^{ty} Considering this attempt as a violaçon of the Treaty's subsisting between his Maj^{ty} and the Crown of Spain, Comands me to acquaint You that he expects his former orders should be strictly observed, a Duplicate whereof is therefore inclosed. I suppose upon the receipt of the first Letter You have given all necessary Directions that no Correspondence should be kept with the said Scotch Colony and that no provisions, ammuniti^{on}, or other assistance should be furnisht them, or be suffered to be conveyed to them from any part of your Government, His Maj^{ty} would have the same care continued, so as the said orders may in all particulars be fully obeyed and put in execution.

I am Sir

Your most humble Servant

JA : VERNON

To Francis Nicholson Esq^r His Maj^{ty}s Lieutenant and Governour Generall of Virginia in America

2. A Letter of Marshall to Jefferson, 1783.

IN this centennial period of the Lewis and Clark exploration, much interest has been displayed in one of the letters in the Draper Manuscript Collection in the Wisconsin Historical Library, a note from Thomas Jefferson, dated Annapolis, December 4, 1783, to General George Rogers Clark, suggesting to the latter an exploration toward the Pacific Ocean, similar in character to that which Jefferson twenty years later succeeded in inducing Meriwether Lewis and William Clark (younger brother of George) to undertake. This letter has already appeared in the columns of the REVIEW (III, 673), and has several times recently been elsewhere published in facsimile. A short time ago the Wisconsin Historical Library was presented by Professor R. E. N. Dodge, of the University of Wisconsin, with an autograph letter of one of his forebears, Chief Justice John Marshall, which throws additional light on this famous letter of Jefferson to George Rogers Clark. The Marshall letter was written at Williamsburg, Va., and addressed to Thomas Jefferson. Therein

¹ Modern Carreto. Governor Gray in his proclamation, September 5, 1699, says "the Island of Cuirat near Darien". *A Full and Exact Collection*, 84.

Marshall, who was at the time a member of the state executive council, acknowledges the receipt of a letter written by Jefferson on the fifth instant, inclosing "letters to Gen^l Clarke and M^r Banks", which "I yesterday deliver'd." General Clark was at that time in Williamsburg, pushing his claims for reimbursement for expenses incurred in his celebrated campaign against Vincennes. The letter of Marshall to Jefferson, heretofore unpublished, is not only noteworthy because of its connection with the latter's early project of an exploration through the Spanish domain beyond the Mississippi, but is interesting in itself, because of characteristic allusions to Patrick Henry and other notable contemporaries. It is given in full below.

R. G. THWAITES.

JOHN MARSHALL TO THOMAS JEFFERSON.

[WILLIAMSBURG, VA.,] Dec^r 12th 1783

Dear Sir

The letters to Gen^l Clarke and M^r Banks enclosed in yours of the 5th inst. I yesterday deliver'd. Should a letter to Maj^r Crittenden arrive by the next post I can give it a certain and immediate conveyance. I gave you in my last some account of the proceedings of the Assembly. The Commutable bill has at length pass'd and with it a suspension of the collection of taxes till the first of January next. I told you the principle speakers for and against the measure. Col^o R. H. Lee has not attended this Session. This is not all. His Services in the Assembly are lost for ever. 'Tis conjectur'd that Col^o Harry Lee of the Legionary corps, will take his place. You know the character of that Gentleman better than I do and can best determine whether the public will be injur'd by the change. The idea of rendering Members of Congress eligible to the Gen^l Assembly has not been taken up. Indeed the attention of the house since the passage of the Commutable bill has been so fix'd on the Citizen bill that they have scarcely thought on any other subject. Since the rejection of the bill introduc'd by Taylor, Col^o Nicholas (a politician not fam'd for hitting a medium) introduced one admitting into this Country every species of Men except Natives who had borne arms against the state. When the house went into Committee on this bill M^r Jones introduc'd by way of amendment, one totally new and totally opposite to that which was the subject of deliberation. He spoke with his usual sound sense and solid reason. M^r Henry oppos'd him. The Speaker replied with some degree of acrimony and Henry retorted with a good deal of tartness but with much temper; 'tis his peculiar excellence when he altercates to appear to be drawn unwillingly into the contest and to throw in the eyes of others the whole blame on his adversary. His influence is immense. The house rose for the day without coming to any determination and the bill is yet in suspense. The principle point on which they split is the exclusion of the Statute Staple Men. I really am uncertain what will be the determination on this subject.

The Officers will soon begin to survey their lands on the Cumberland. Has Crittenden your Military warrant? The report from Congress with respect to the cession has not yet reach'd us, of course the assembly can have determined nothing about it. My Father set out for the western Country about the 5th of Nov^r. I have not heard a syllable from Crittenden since his departure.

As ever I am with the greatest esteem yours

J. MARSHALL

Banks has applied to me for a considerable sum, on your account but I presume Your letter to him was on that subject. I parry every applicant as well as possible yours J. M.

3. *Charles Pinckney's Reply to Jay, August 16, 1786, regarding a Treaty with Spain.*

THE following speech is found as a printed broadside in the Madison Papers, now in the Library of Congress. The print is contemporary with the incident to which it applied, and the form is the same as the issues of the Continental Congress. It is not probable, however, that Congress had any part in the printing, and it must have appeared as a private undertaking of Pinckney, whose interest in the question of the Mississippi was strong. I have never seen another copy of the speech, nor have I seen any mention of it in contemporary discussions. It places the commercial arguments in telling form, and is an important contribution to the history of an incident in Jay's career which his descendants have sought to bury in forgetfulness. The southern states never forgot the proposition to close the Mississippi; nor would Jay have proposed it if he had not considered a treaty of commerce with Spain of greater importance than the continued wrangling for a right which he knew, by mortifying experiences, Spain would never concede. Better a profitable trade than further negotiations that had thus far come to naught, and that gave little promise of an issue other than failure. Pinckney expresses the Southern point of view, and explains it upon a higher plane than so bitter an opponent of Jay as Monroe, Virginia's spokesman on the same question was able to adopt.

WORTHINGTON CHAUNCEY FORD.

Mr. Charles Pinckney's Speech, in Answer to Mr. Jay, Secretary for Foreign Affairs, on the Question of a Treaty with Spain, delivered in Congress, August 16, 1786.

Mr. President,

The Secretary for Foreign Affairs has reported, that, in consequence of the commission and instructions he had received from Congress for the purpose of negotiating with Mr. Gardoqui, he has had several conferences with him upon this subject.